CASE TD/4-22777/MA 2229/A/PCT

Group Art Unit: unassigned

Examiner: unassigned

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

NORMAN STEWART BATTY ET AL

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP 03/12062

FILED: October 30, 2003

FOR: THICKENING AGENTS COMPRISING A

CROSSLINKED POLYMER POWDER

U.S. APPLICATION NO: UNASSIGNED

35 USC 371 DATE:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application without prejudice as follows, prior to calculation of the filing fee and consideration on the merits.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows.